

St Mary, Hague

Sts Peter & Paul, Strasburg

St Michael, Rural Linton

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Sunday, April 12, 2020 el.com Easter Sunday Of The Resurrection Of The Lord

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From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

Let me begin this note by simply saying I MISS YOU! As we deal with the necessary restrictions because of the Covid-19 virus, I want you to know that I am praying daily for every one of you. At every Mass I am praying for you and asking the Lord to bless you and sustain you in your Faith and to keep you close to Him. And, yes, I am greatly looking forward to when we are able to gather together again in prayer!

I know many of you are already aware, but if not, I want to let you know that my dear mother Mary Sue passed away in the early morning of April 3rd. My mother's health had been declining over the last six months. On Wednesday, April 1st, I received a call from the nursing home where my mom was a resident and was told that her condition had dramatically changed. I rushed to Bismarck and was able to celebrate the Last Sacraments with her and then with my sister Amy, was able to keep vigil with my mom as she made her final journey to the Lord. It was certainly a very difficult time, and yet, tremendously grace-filled and beautiful. I am grateful to all of you for your prayers for my mother and for me and my family. Thank you to all of you who have reached out with phone calls and with cards of sympathy and assurances of prayers. My family and I are so very grateful! I celebrated the funeral Mass for my mom in Hazelton at St. Paul's Catholic Church on Tuesday afternoon, April 7th. Because of the Covid-19 restrictions, only my sister Amy and her family were able to be in attendance. When the restrictions are lifted, my family plans to gather this summer when we can all be together and celebrate the life of my mother.

I am writing these words on Holy Thursday morning. I am filled with gratitude to the Lord for what He has done for us and for what we will remember in a most special way these next few days. We celebrate the Paschal Mystery, following the Lord

through his Passion, Death on the Cross and the Resurrection. We begin these sacred three days—The Holy Triduum—with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We remember that at the Last Supper, Our Lord gave us the two sacraments of the Eucharist and Holy Orders (the priesthood). Following that meal, the Lord and the apostles make their way to the Garden of Gethsemane. It is there where Jesus begins His Passion and is arrested. On Good Friday, we remember the Lord's ultimate gift of love for us—His Death on the Cross. And then at the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord. Jesus Christ is Risen from the Dead, Alleluia!! Salvation is ours because of Christ's victory over sin and death!

I am quite sad to know that you will not be physically in attendance with me as I celebrate these most holy liturgies of Holy Week. However, I know that we are together in spirit. Know that Fr. Leonard and I will be keeping all of you in our hearts and uniting your prayers to ours as we celebrate the Sacred Triduum.

I wish all of you a very Happy and Blessed Easter. May God Bless each and every one of you and may the Risen Christ be always praised! Alleluia!

Fr. Shannon

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You are already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

News and Events

The Strasburg Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday April 13th.

April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month!

Our churches are open for private prayer. You are most welcome to come and pray in the presence of the Lord, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament reserved in our tabernacles. We will continue to create our bulletin which can be accesses via our parish website (emmonscatholics.org). Copies of the bulletin will also be placed in the Strasburg and Hague Church. Attached to this weeks bulletin is a guide for Catholic Families entitled "Holy Week From Home".

There are still Palms left in the back of church. In order to protect yourself and others, <u>Please</u> use the Hand Sanitizer prior to touching the <u>Palms!</u> — While our parishes do not have the capability to stream our own daily Masses, there are many good parishes who do. A list of options can be found on the Diocese of Bismarck website (<u>bismarckdiocese.com</u>), as well as much other information and updates.

Thank You to everyone who is keeping faithful to your Parish Financial Contributions whether it is weekly or monthly. Hague and St. Michael's Parishes—You can also drop off or mail your contributions and I will get it to where it needs to go. Our Parishes still need to pay our bills and without our regular collections at Mass, it is certainly more difficult to do that. You can mail your contribution to the parish office at PO Box 322, Strasburg, ND 58573 or call Alice at the rectory—336-7172 to make arrangements to drop them off at the rectory. Thank you!
—Please do not hesitate to call Fr. Shannon or contact the parish office, especially if there is an emergency sacramental need.

The Strasburg KCs are still collecting food and non perishable items for the "40 Cans for Lent" to support our local food pantry. (This will be on-going at this time due to the Covid-19.) There goal is to collect 1000 lbs. If this goal is met, the Supreme Council will give the Strasburg KCs \$100.00 which the KCs would also donate to the food pantry. Boxes are in place in the middle entry way of the Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Strasburg. Boxes will also be placed in Hague, Westfield, & Linton.

Catholic United Sts. Peter & Paul & St. Mary's CCD Raffle Tickets are for sale. Tickets can also be purchased at

the Strasburg Rectory—(call Alice to make arrangements to pick up or return books), any CCD Students, Creative Touch, Mona Reis or Kathy Nagel & at the Hague Café, Hague Grocery Store, or from Lisa Hulm. This fundraiser is sponsored by St. Mary's Council, along with Catholic United Financial, for the benefit of the Strasburg and Hague CCD Program.

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the

Pontifical Good Friday Collection on April 10th, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic Schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous! You may donate online, or over the phone by calling (202) 526-6800. For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-Friday.

Donations for Good Friday, Rice Bowls, Weekly Collections, CCD Raffle Tickets, etc. can be mailed or dropped off at the Strasburg Rectory. Call Alice at 336-7172 to make arrangements.

Steubenville Conferences: Youth currently in grades 8-12 will have two options for Steubenville Conferences this summer—June 17-21 in Denver and July 23-26 in St. Paul. Both conferences provide an opportunity for youth to encounter God through speakers, workshops, music, Eucharistic adoration and community with other Catholic teens. Contact Chris Kraft at ckraft@bismarckdiocese.com or 204-7208 with questions. (The registration deadline for the Steubenville youth trips will now be Friday, May 1st to better accommodate all during this time of uncertainty. All paid expenses by potential participants will be refunded if the trip is cancelled due to COVID concerns.)

Pray for the sick: Fr. Jeff Zwack, Karen Keller, Terry Buechler, Ron Kramer, Betty Hoffman, Nattie Nagel, Beth Kelsch, Elaine Wald, Michael Hanson, Asher Sorrels—Grandson of Kevin & Deb Leier, Todd Moch, Leo & Nancy Weber.

Pray for the deceased: Mary Sue Lucht, Brandon Wagner, MaryAnn Wolf, Marietta "Toots" Brooks, and Francis Nolz.

Stewardship—A Way Of Life: Very early in the morning after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body with precious oils. The reward of this good and conscientious steward was to be the first to know that Jesus had been raised from the dead! Alleluia!

Stewardship Thought: Stewardship of time, talent and treasure is chiefly a way to deepen our spiritual life.

Vocation Views: The angel said, "Do not be afraid." Trust that the risen Christ empowers you to go and spread the good news. (Matthew 28:1-10)

All Parish Members Of Strasburg, Hague, and St. Michael's: Now is the perfect time to check this out! Our Parishes pay for a program called FORMED. Please take the time to go on this site and see all the things this program has to offer. To get on the site, go to: FORMED.org; enter the Parish Code: 5f67f8; and sign in with your personal information. It is amazing!